

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, 1883, with transcript

Letter from Mrs, Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. OAKLAND HOTEL, Oakland, Md. 1883. My dearest Alec:

I was delighted to hear from you this morning and perfectly satisfied with your production. You needn't have gone in such a state of excitement over your sins of omission and your note with its words of love was quite enough to make up for anything. Pray don't sit up to write dearly as I love to hear from you that prize is too dear.

Your friend the etymologist is here, he arrived by the five o'clock train and was met by his sister and is now staying here with her. If you think that proper conduct towards a wife I don't. Please find out from Dr. Johnston particularly about Dr. McComas, and if there is any other good Dr. here and if Dr. J. Tabor Johnson is near here and where. There is a good deal of excitement in the hotel about Dr. McComas now and I don't want to be left at his mercy should I need a physician. There is a child here desperately ill with gastric fever complicated with kidney and bladder troubles and congestion of brain, he first went off to Deer Park leaving her for twenty-four hours without medical assistance of any kind and with ignorant parents. On his return he is said to have blamed himself severely for leaving her and said she should not have been alone at night before. He staid with her all night, this morning she was slightly better and he went to Deer Park promising to return by six o'clock train. He has not done so, and the fever is rapidly increasing, the child fearfully excited and the parents perfectly helpless. Yet he himself said she was most dangerously ill.

2

Think how we should have felt if Dr. Johnson thoroughly realizing in what a critical state Daisy was in should have gone off and left us absolutely without help. They say Dr. J.

Library of Congress

Tabor Johnson is here and I want to know if it is true for statements are very conflicting. They say also that the Dr. put his thermometer under the child's arm, announced the temperature to be 102 and not until an hour later and away from her did he look at it again and find it registered 104. That is hardly careful doctoring. I have my statements at second-hand the mother having told sister or Berta who told me. At present my babies are flourishing. Caterpillar No. 2 is what do you call it, making himself a bed.

Lovingly, Mabel.